

Act Now For A 65c Minimum Wage!

ACTION is needed if the 65c minimum bills are to become the law of the land. HR3841 and S1282, the bills in the House and Senate, are Number One on the order of business for the whole CIO Political Action Committee.

FTA members are particularly concerned with these bills since 45% of the workers in the food and tobacco industries earn less than 65c an hour today. The raising of the minimum wage to 65c an hour will benefit the entire country. In the words of CIO President Philip Murray:

"Substandard wages as now paid to millions of Americans mean a substandard economy. Workers receiving less than a decent minimum

are not going to be able to buy the goods and services that must be sold to avert another economic depression worse than any we have previously felt."

Every FTA local union should immediately launch a campaign on the 65c minimum wage by:

- Informing all members of the contents of these bills. Study the details covering "area of production," cannery and other seasonal workers and agricultural workers.

- When delegations visit local Congressmen and Senators during the present recess, talk about the 65c minimum bills first and convince them to support these bills.

- Start a letter-writing campaign on Congressmen and Senators, involving all members. Letters from local unions are good, but stacks of letters from individual members can't be beat.

- Convince your community of the importance of HR3841 and S1282. Begin to systematically cover all community organizations, churches and neighboring farmers. Rally the businessmen and professional people in your community to support these measures which will also benefit them.

- At CIO Council meetings, bring the bills up for discussion and action, explaining the exemptions eliminated, so that the other CIO unions will understand them.

FTA news

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA—CIO

Vol. V, No. 13

Aug. 1, 1945 Price 5 Cents

Congress Broke No-Strike Vow, Henderson Says

Philadelphia, Pa. — By the passage of the infamous Lea Rider, Congress has exempted packingshed and other so-called "agricultural" workers from the War Labor Board and its restrictions, FTA President Donald Henderson declared July 17. "Congress has released all these workers from their no-strike pledge," Henderson stated.

The Lea Rider, which was attached to the big War Agencies Appropriations bill, became law on July 17. It prohibits the WLB from spending any of its funds in cases involving bargaining units "composed in whole or in part of agricultural workers as defined in the Social Security Act." It thus deprives packingshed workers, horticultural workers and many others — possibly 3 million in all — from any means whereby they can settle their disputes peacefully.

"The Lea Rider may bring about chaotic conditions," President Henderson said. "Labor's adoption of the no-strike pledge was contingent upon the Government's providing an agency with authority to settle labor disputes. Withdrawing these industries from the control of the WLB is a violation by Congress of its part in the no-strike pledge."

"The workers will do their best to settle their disputes peacefully in furtherance of the war effort, but they cannot be expected to surrender to employer provocations," Henderson added.

Some of the workers covered by the Lea Rider include: 135,000 workers in fruit and vegetable and citrus packingsheds; 15,000 persons employed in the processing of dried fruits and olives; 20,000 employees of bean-cleaning elevators; 60,000 workers in cotton gins; 10,000 poultry-hatchery employees; and 60,000 persons employed in nurseries, greenhouses, and irrigation enterprises and on farms in special trades or occupations, such as clerks, carpenters and mechanics.

Bills For 65c Minimum Wage Before Congress

Washington, D. C.—Opening a national campaign to raise sub-standard wages, two bills were introduced in the Senate and House on July 18 calling for a 65c minimum wage. The proposed legislation would amend the Wage and Hour Act (Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938), raising the present legal wage minimum from 40c an hour to 65c this year and 75c within the next two years.

About 10 million workers are affected, including 45% of the workers in the food and tobacco industries who are earning less than 65c per hour at present. Agricultural workers are excluded, however.

Hailing the introduction of the bills and the launching of a nationwide campaign in support of the bills by the CIO Political Action Committee, FTA President Donald Henderson stated that the raising

of substandard wages is one of the first needs of America today if we are to avoid an economic crisis.

"The need for a 65c minimum wage in the food and tobacco industries is acute," Henderson said. "A legal minimum wage is as vitally needed for agricultural

workers as it is for other workers. Such legislation, as manpower shortages in the food and tobacco industries ease up during the re-conversion period, the take-home pay of these workers will be reduced due to loss of overtime pre-

mium pay. It is therefore imperative that substandard wages be raised in order to maintain adequate purchasing power of the people."

The bills were introduced in the Senate by Sen. James Mead (D., N. Y.), acting for Sen. Claude Pepper (D., Fla.) and in the House by Rep. Claude Pepper (D., Fla.) and Rep. Price (D., Ill.). They call for:

- 65c per hour for the first 44 hours in each week for the first year;
- 70c per hour for the first 42

hours for the second year;

- 75c per hour for the first 40 hours for the third year.

The bill allows industry committees set up by the Wage and Hour Act to increase the minimum for particular industries to 75c the first year, 80c the second year, and 85c the third year, in occupations in the industries covered.

COVERS MANY GROUPS

Although agricultural processing workers are excluded from provisions of the bills, many other types of workers are included in minimum wage laws for the first time. These include "area of production" workers in fish canneries and allied products, certain perishable food industries and seamen.

The bills also do away with the 14 complete hours exemption for first processing of agricultural products. This means that canneries workers who now work unlimited hours without overtime pay during seasonal peaks up to 14 weeks will be paid time-and-a-half for all hours worked after 56 hours during that period.

CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

The CIO Political Action Committee, immediately following introduction of the bills, launched plans to fight for passage of the bills. PAC will sponsor mass meetings throughout the country to explain the need for the bills and will distribute a great quantity of pamphlets, leaflets and posters with the same purpose.

Since hearings were not expected on the bills until after Congress reconvenes in October, the PAC campaign will be geared to lining up Congressmen in favor of the bills during the recess. FTA and CIO-PAC will fight for speedy hearings in October and early passage of the bills.



WHAT TO DO DURING CONGRESS RECESS . . .

—See Page 2

Political Action For Pork Chops

"NOW is the time for every FTA local to swing into the campaign to stop unemployment," declared Pres. Donald Henderson, urging every FTA member to study and act on the legislative program mapped out at the recent meeting of the CIO Executive Board.

In her column on this page, FTA Washington Representative Elizabeth Sasuly outlines the steps for local union delegations to follow in visiting their Congressmen and Senators at home during the Congressional summer recess.

Following is the FTA-CIO program on which action should be based.

A 65c Minimum Wage

The Issue: The present legal minimum wage set by the Fair Labor Standards Act is 40c per hour. Agricultural workers and others are excluded and have no legal minimum wage. An "area of production" definition under consideration by the Wage Hour Administration might exclude up to one-third or more of canning and food processing plants from both the wage and hour provisions of the Act. Hours exemptions in canneries and other food processing plants allow 14 weeks with no pay-

ment for overtime and 14 weeks seasonal exemption with no overtime up to 56 hours.

Some 45% of the workers in the food and tobacco industries and 9 million workers in other industries make less than 65c. The only solution is a new minimum wage of at least 65c, coverage of workers now excluded, and eliminations of hour exemptions.

The Bill: H.R. 3841 and S. 1282 (Further details and action to be taken will be found on page 1 of this issue of the News.)

Emergency Unemployment Insurance

The Issue: Immediate action is necessary to provide for war workers who have lost and will lose their jobs. They must have insurance beyond what is now provided in State laws; workers now excluded must be covered. This is necessary to tide us over until the shift is made to civilian production. If it is not done quickly, unemployed workers will not be able to buy the necessities of life and we will start downhill toward depression. Food and tobacco workers will be affected immediately if war production workers

have no money to buy what they need.

The Bills: Congressman Doughton (D., N.C.), has introduced a bill (H.R. 3736) in the House which is inadequate and does not cover agricultural workers; nor does it provide travel pay for out of town war workers. The Senate version of the bill, S. 1274, is far better and has CIO support. Both bills provide unemployed benefits of \$25 for 26 weeks.

Action: Urge your Congressmen to pass these emergency measures quickly, and to improve the Doughton bill.

20% Increase in Basic Wages

The Issue: This increase, 20% and up to 17c per hour must be made immediately, because (1) the cost of living has gone up, (2) output per worker has gone up, and (3) as we go back to a shorter workweek, take-home pay will drop.

No bill is necessary. The President can act under the War Pow-

ers Act and the Economic Stabilization Act to permit these increases.

Action: Congressmen are circulating a petition asking the President to revise the national wage policy and restore the original authority of the WLB. Tell your Congressman to sign this petition now and get others to sign.

Full Employment — Jobs For All

The Issue: To provide jobs for all in peacetime as we have done in wartime. It is our obligation to our fighting men if we are to make this country a decent place to live in without a depression.

The Bill: Full Employment Bill, H.R. 2202 and S. 380, place responsibility for full employment squarely on government and Congress for first time.

(1) The President presents a budget each year to Congress which estimates the size of the working force in the country, the volume of business needed to give jobs to all workers, and the volume of business expected for the year.

(2) If there will not be enough jobs, the President recommends

ways in which private business can make jobs, BUT—

(3) If the President finds that private investment cannot do the job, he recommends a program of federal improvements which will close the gap between the number of jobs and the number of workers who need work. These recommendations go to a Joint Committee of Congress for action.

The bill recognizes that when workers are out of jobs it is not because they don't want to work, but because there are no jobs. It sets up a framework in which we can fight for jobs.

Action: Support these bills and be ready to support public works measures, like the Missouri Valley Authority, which will put meat on the bones of plans for full employment.

Permanent Fair Employment Practices

The Issue: A permanent FEPC is necessary to put in practice the democratic rights of all to have jobs regardless of race, color or creed. FTA, with a large membership of minority groups, has a special stake in outlawing discrimination by this bill.

The Bill: Bills to set up a permanent FEPC are H.R. 2322, introduced by Rep. Mary Norton

(D., N.J.), and S. 101, introduced by Sen. Chavez (D., N.M.). The House Rules Committee has refused to report it out to the floor. The Senate Education and Labor Committee has reported the bill favorably, but Southern poll-taxers are threatening a filibuster.

Action: Tell your representative to sign the discharge petition immediately.

(Continued in next columns)

NO TIME FOR VACATION



FROM WASHINGTON

A Double-Barrelled Drive

By ELIZABETH SASULY, Legislative Director

THE House and the Senate have packed up and gone home. Congress is planning an extended recess—many are talking of staying away until the middle of September—while legislation which is immediately necessary for speedy reconversion and decent wages is hanging fire. This absenteeism must be stopped!

FTA, together with the rest of the CIO, must carry on a double-barrelled campaign beginning right now—a campaign to see your Senators and Congressmen

while they are home. Tell them to get back to Washington, to get back into session and pass the laws that are needed by the people.

Every local should make plans to meet with its representatives right away. Very shortly, you will receive a voting record showing what your Congressmen and Senators have done so far in the 79th Congress. Study this and be prepared to discuss it with them. Tell them we must have immedi-

ate action on sorely needed measures.

These are the steps to take in arranging a meeting with your Congressmen and Senators:

- Set up a committee in your local to meet with him. Make it a big committee—the bigger, the better.
- Get his address and phone number; then write, wire or phone him for an appointment.
- Go over his voting record carefully and be prepared to tell him plainly what you think of his good and bad votes. Study the FTA-CIO legislative program which must be passed to prevent unemployment and depression, and discuss it with him.
- When you see your Congressman, tell him politely, but firmly, that you want a commitment from him as to what he will do on each specific issue.

Here are the most important issues to take up with him: (See story on this page for more specific details on each issue.)

- Emergency unemployment insurance for war workers who are losing their jobs.
- The 65c minimum wage bills. These bills also eliminate hours exemptions and area of production exemptions for food processing workers.
- Support for CIO demands for a 20% increase in basic wage rates to make up for pending cuts in the workweek and price increases.
- The Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill for decent social security, medical care and hospitalization.
- Establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee.
- Get your Congressmen's pledges to fight against the Ball-Burton-Hatch anti-labor bill.

Health Insurance and Social Security

The Issue: Adequate medical care, sick benefits, security and old age are problems which must be solved by legislation. Provisions for them are just as necessary as wages and working conditions.

The Bill: The Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bills, S. 1050, and H.R. 3293, is in the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee.

It is extremely important to FTA members because it provides for coverage of packing shed and agricultural workers, now excluded from social security benefits. Following are its main provisions:

- (1) Medical care for as long as needed and hospitalization; physicians' services and hospital care for 30 days.
- (2) A federal system of unem-

ployment insurance provided uniform benefits for 26 weeks after a waiting period of one week. Benefits are higher than most states now provide.

(3) Increase in old age, survivors' benefits—a minimum of \$20 and a maximum of \$120 per month.

(4) Maternity benefits—12 weeks at same rate as unemployed benefits.

(5) Social security protection for members of armed forces by government payment of social security taxes for period in service.

(6) Program to be financed by 6% tax on workers and 6% tax on employers. CIO considers tax on workers too high and will work for reduction, with government paying its share.

Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill — NO!

This bill (S. 1171), officially called the Federal Industrial Relations Bill, would utterly wipe out labor's gains under the Wagner Act. It eliminates all protections under which labor can organize; it opens the way for employers to wreck the unions; and puts severe restrictions upon collective bargaining provisions for union

security. In short, it gives all the power to the employers and leaves labor's right unprotected.

Action: This bill must be defeated in the Senate. The Wagner Act and other labor legislation must be defended from raids on their provisions by any other "ball and chain" bills such as the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill.

Reinstated On Job By Local 125

By Jack Sparks,
International Organizer

St. Joseph, Mo.—Fired from his job for his alleged failure to notify the Company while he was ill in bed, Jesse Kirkpatrick, Local 125 member at Danner Mills, was promptly reinstated in his job through the effective work of the Local Shop Stewards.

Kirkpatrick, an active member of the Local who more than once has brought the Company into line on important issues, hurt his back while working on his car and was laid up in bed. He sent his young son to the neighbors to ask them to report in for him, and they tried several times to contact the Company without result. Meanwhile, Kirkpatrick did not know that the Company had not been notified until several days later.

Still under the care of the doctor, he got out of bed as soon as he was able, and went to town to notify the foreman. In the contract there is a clause stating that an employee shall lose his seniority if he is absent from work without reasonable excuse and does not notify the Company. The foreman informed Kirkpatrick that he had been fired.

SUPT. SAYS NO

As soon as he got his doctor's release, Kirkpatrick returned to the plant, this time to see the General Superintendent, the only man with authority to fire him. Kirkpatrick showed his release from the doctor, and offered to report for work the next shift. However, the Superintendent would not let him report back to work.

Int. Org. Jack Sparks and the Local Shop Stewards were informed about the case by Kirkpatrick and they took it up before a meeting of the management and the Stewards. It did not take much argument to convince the management that they were wrong and to get a settlement of the case.

The successful handling of this case was a good experience for the new Shop Stewards who have been working much more effectively since that time. They are rapidly closing up the gap between the workers under contract and the union members, with the aim of making all the workers members of Local 125.



Byapt

From UAW "Ammunition"

Win Gov't "A" Award At Van Camp Seafood

San Diego, Calif.—"Your plant has received the highest tribute the Government can confer upon management and labor in the food processing industry," said E. H. Spoor, Regional Director of the Commodity Credit Corp., in presenting the Dept. of Agriculture "A" Award for achievement to Local 64 members and the management of the Van Camp Sea Food Co.



"Your joint effort and initiative," he continued, "have won a victory on the vital food front which will directly help win final victory on the battlefield. I extend my sincere compliments and hearty congratulations to every man and woman in your plant who helped to set this inspiring example of patriotic achievement."

In a joint statement to the press, Robert Galvan, Local 64 Business Agent, and Bates Harper, Company Manager, expressed their pride in the relations between labor and management which made the fine record of production possible. This is just one of the many ways in which Local 64 contributed directly to the war effort. Red Cross fund drives, community war chest drives, blood donor drives and the war loan drives, all have felt a boost in San Diego from the all-out membership participation of Local 64.

Harper announced that this was the first tuna cannery in the area to receive the honor of the "A" Award. Ceremonies celebrating the Award will be held shortly at which the "A" Award flag will be presented, and small "A" Award pins will be awarded to each employee. Van Camp's is the seventh plant under contract to FTA to receive the Award since the war began.

WLB Okays Pay Raises At Buckeye Oil Mill

North Little Rock, Ark. — Applying the War Labor Board policy for correcting substandard wages, the 7th Regional WLB granted Local 98's demand for a 5c per hour increase to common laborers at the Buckeye Cotton Oil Co. The Board order brings the minimum wage in the plant up to 55c an hour.

Also included in the wage adjustments ordered by the Board were tapered increases ranging from 44c to 1c an hour for job classifications above 55c and below 80c an hour. All increases are retroactive to March 15, 1945, the date the last contract expired.

WIN UNION SECURITY

Another dispute settled by the WLB was over the union security clause. The Company claimed that Local 98 was not a responsible Union and therefore not entitled to union security because of a work stoppage which took place last January. FTA claimed that Union officials had shown their responsibility by trying to halt the unauthorized work stoppage, and that the stoppage had been brought about by Company discharge of a group of employees without just cause. The Board upheld the Union's position by ordering the inclusion in the contract of a standard maintenance of membership clause and check-off of dues.

Some 105 workers covered by FTA at Buckeye were affected by the Board order on wage adjustments and union security. Both issues have been appealed by the Company.

5c Increase At Helena Cotton Oil

Helena, Ark.—A general wage increase of 5c an hour was won by Local 232 for the workers at the Helena Cotton Oil Co. in a new contract effective August 1. Time and a half pay for holidays worked and the sixth day of work, one week's paid vacation, and arbitration of grievances were the major gains made over the old contract.

Sub-Regional Director Harry Koger, who opened the negotiations, was forced by illness to turn the case over to CIO Sub-Regional Director R. Henderson. Henderson did a fine job in assisting the Local Negotiating Committee.

Representing the Company was John Daggett, well known anti-labor lawyer and a strong supporter of the Christian American anti-union legislation in the State. Daggett was forced by the Union's demands to recommend that the Company include in the contract an arbitration clause for settling disputes.

Local 78 Wins Elections in 26 Packingsheds

By Charles Law, Local 78 Vice-President

Phoenix, Ariz.—Although the Bill of Rights declares that "the right of self expression shall not be denied the people," Local 78 members found that it takes weary months of labor to have that right granted to them. When the

NLRB elections which they petitioned for in the mixed vegetable packing sheds of Salt River Valley finally did come up, the workers chose FTA in eleven sheds by an overwhelming vote of 274 to 88.

Because the NLRB refused to include all workers handling all fruits and vegetables, but limited the unit to mixed vegetable workers, the Union was forced to petition again for the melon workers. The melon shed elections were ordered on 22 sheds to be held between June 20 and August 20. Sixteen of the sheds held elections the week of July 9th, and again there was an avalanche of votes for FTA, bringing 15 more sheds into the Union. One shed was lost by the narrow margin of one vote. On five of the sheds every vote cast was for FTA. The total tabulation in the 16 sheds showed a vote of 463 for the Union and 69 against.

WORKERS STAUNCH

This vote was testimony to the staunch stand of the pro-union workers in the face of bitter, stubborn opposition tactics used by the employers. It exploded one of the employers' old standbys of stalling and delay to make the workers lose interest and weaken the Union's support.

The winning of bargaining rights on these 15 sheds extends the protection of the Union to well over half the melon workers in the area.

FTA's victory on the total of 26 sheds deals a mortal blow to the open-shop, anti-union employers' group that has stubbornly resisted the march of labor's progress; a group which has been known as the fortress of Fascist tactics hand in hand with the California citrus industry. We, in Arizona, feel that we have stormed and taken a major strong point in the battle for labor's rights in the Southwest.

Goetz Ice Workers Vote for Local 78

Tolleson, Ariz.—Refusing to be put away on ice when it comes to receiving the benefits of being organized in FTA, the employees of the Goetz Ice Co. here voted unanimously for Local 78 as their bargaining agent by a vote of 12 to 0.

Workers covered in the bargaining unit include truck drivers and storage men, watch engineers and ice pullers.

The Goetz Ice Co. provides the ice in which lettuce and other fruits and vegetables are packed by members of Local 78 in the fresh fruit and vegetable packing sheds. Some 14 workers are employed by the Company.

FTA Wins Election At Gibbs Cannery

Baltimore, Md. — Victory for FTA in an NLRB election at the Gibbs Packing plant raised the hopes of the workers in their demands for improved working conditions. Of the 278 eligible voters, 131 voted for the Union, 79 against, 4 votes were void, and 7 were challenged.

Until FTA came on the scene, working conditions at the plant were so bad that the labor turnover averaged 50% every 3 months over the past few years. Workers had no paid vacations; women made between 42½c and 45c an hour; men made between 50c and 65c an hour, with very few hitting the 65c rate. Now that the plant is organized, the Union intends to get greater stability of employment by improving conditions and modifying the overtime exemption of the seasonal workers.

The Gibbs plant cans pork and beans, tomato soup, ketchup, and other products.

FTA news

Published twice a month from September to July inclusive and monthly in August at 838 Greenwich Street New York 11, N. Y.

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations 1505 Race Street Philadelphia 2, Pa. (Address all communications to Philadelphia office.)

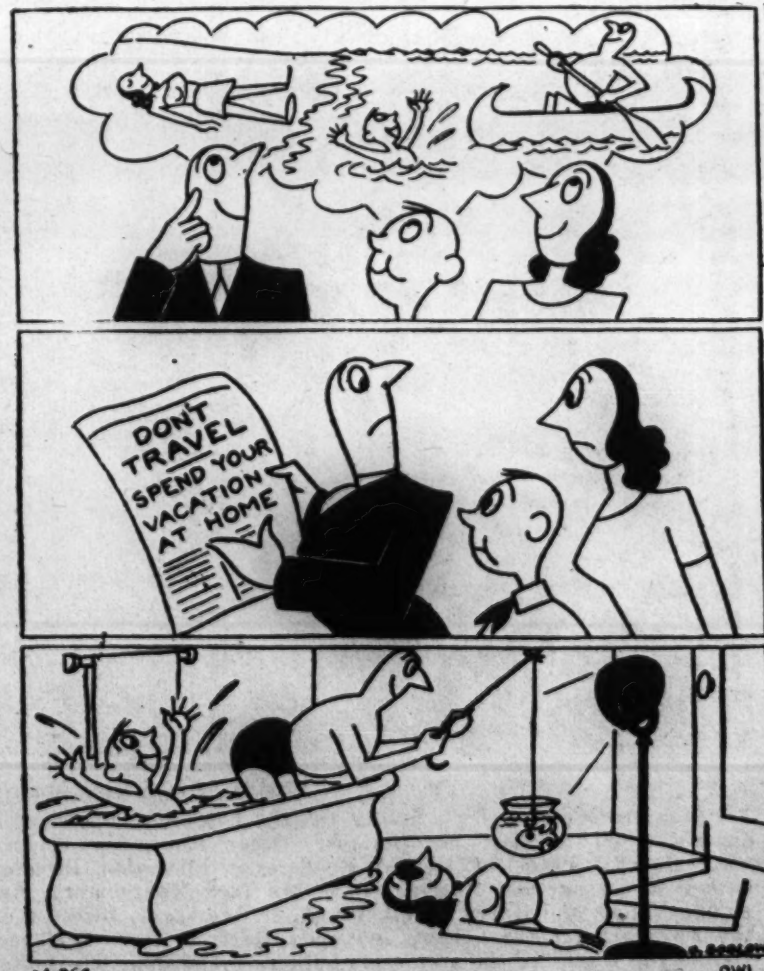
DONALD HENDERSON General President HAROLD J. LANE General Secretary-Treasurer

Vice-Presidents: Lewis Bentley, John Mac Dyson, Louis F. Jeddick, Louis Moreno, Otis Nation (on leave), Armando Ramirez, Robbie Mae Riddick, Dixie Tiller, Armando Valdes, Owen H. Whitfield

Editor: Bertie Selden Subscription: \$1 a year to non-members "Reentered as second class matter December 30, 1944, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879."

NEXT ISSUE: Material must be in by 9 a.m. Aug. 21.

Vol. V, No. 13 Aug. 1, 1945



M-266

OWI

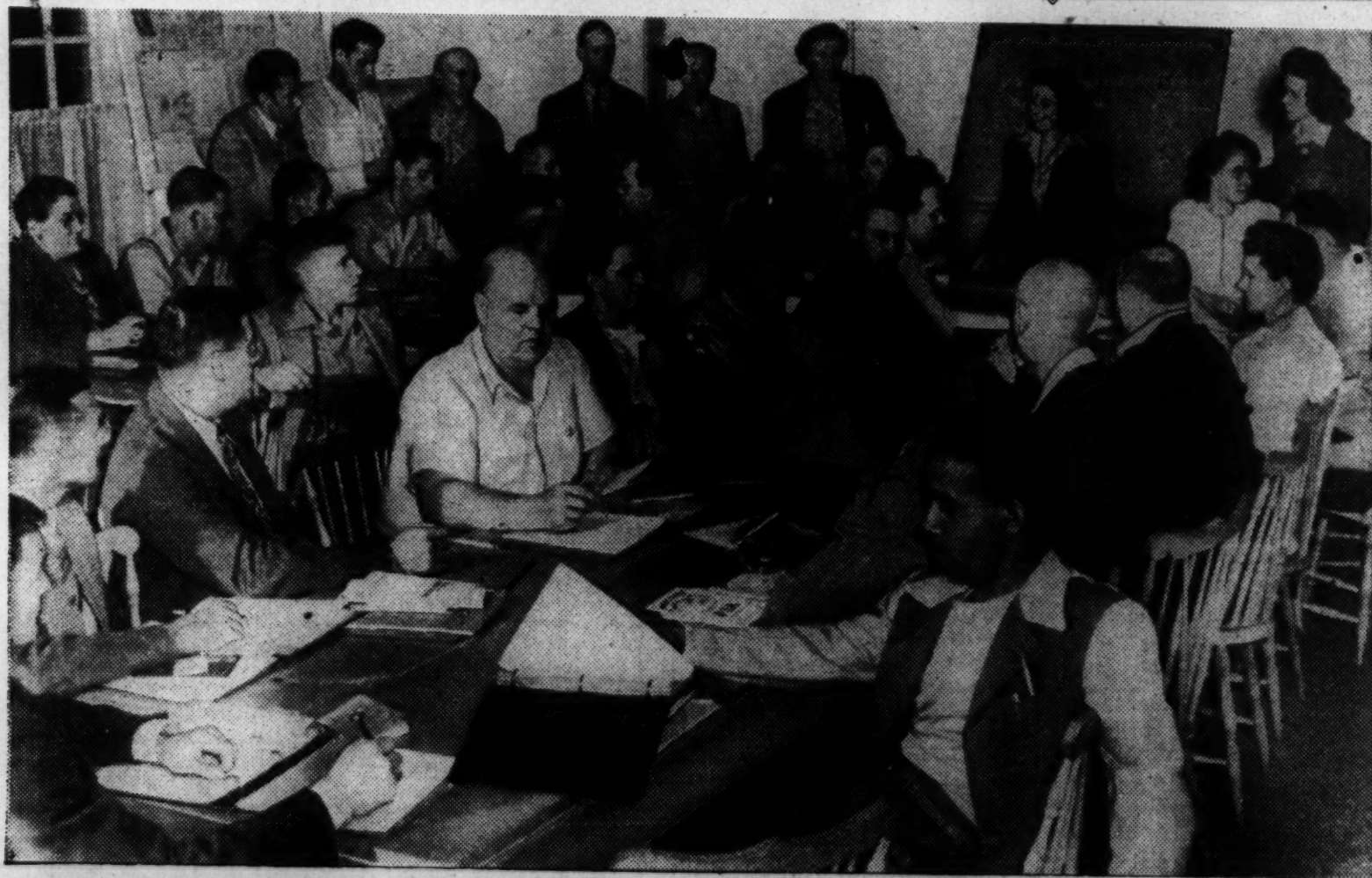
FTA School Bells Ring Again



CHATTING AFTER SESSIONS (left to right): Vic Clive, Local 125; Agnes Vlcko, 110; Joe Schutt, 120; Wes Kopecky, 110; Wally Post, 110; Sydney Forbes, 110; Louis Jedlicka, 110; Ed Baltzer, 120; Armando Valdes, Ohio-Mich. Reg. Dir.; Julia Hines, 125; Frank Kerres, 110.



CORRECTING EXAM PAPERS (seated left to right): Mildred Glenn, Shop Chairman of Gielow's unit of Local 58 in Detroit; Kenneth Hirschy, Chief Shop Steward at Central Soya, Local 44 in Decatur, Ind.; and Louis F. Jedlicka, Business Agent of Local 110, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Int. Vice-President. Interested spectators (standing, left to right) are: John Besso, Pres., Local 11, Lockport, Ill. (Illinois Cereal); Connie Anderson, Int. Education Dir.; and George Tricker of Kraft Cheese, Local 93, Decatur.



A TYPICAL SESSION AT THE SCHOOL (above) shows FTA Washington Rep. Elizabeth Sasuly (at the blackboard) leading a discussion on contract negotiations. Other discussion leaders were General President Donald Henderson; Education Director Connie Anderson; and Regional Directors Jack Montgomery, Armando Valdes and Harry Virgil. Dr. A. D. Winspear, Director of the Abraham Lincoln School, spoke on fascism; Dave Scribner, UE lawyer, discussed the problems of veterans and their job rights; and Ernest DiMaio, a UE Vice-President, spoke on labor solidarity. Delegates to the school were: John Besso, Local 11; Joseph Schutt and Edwin Baltzer, Local 120; John Maurisak, Local 13;

Melvin Stephenson, Local 20; Charles Frantz and Dale Campbell, Local 30; Kenneth Hirsche, Local 44; Elizabeth Marcheichi, Victor Anderson and Edward Sparks, Local 47; Arlie Adkins and E. P. Murphy, Local 55; Mildred Glenn and Dorothy Vandegarde, Local 58; Sybil Neff, Local 72; George Tricker, Local 93; Sydney Forbes, Wesley Kopecky, Wallace Post, Frank Kerres, Agnes Vlcko and Louis Jedlicka, Local 110; Julia Hines and H. V. Cline, Local 125; Jim Yordy and Leo Duncan, Local 166; Veronica Kryzan, Paul Gardner and Thomas Smith, Local 194; Laura Carl, Local 200; Norton Ackerman Local 297; and Alex Berg, Local 495.

A Good Week Spent At Midwest Training School

By Connie Anderson, FTA Education Director

SOME 33 FTA leaders from 8 Mid-west states came together on July 16 for a week of concentrated work at the FTA Leadership Training School in Madison, Wisconsin.

President Donald Henderson, in presenting the diplomas on Saturday afternoon, said that the value of the week's work would be tested by the extent to which the leaders who attended the school strengthened their local unions. The school was marked throughout with this feeling of deep responsibility to the membership.

Introductions

Promptly at 2 o'clock on Monday everyone was on hand ready to plunge into the work. Each delegate introduced himself and told about the background of his local. All the locals represented were over 2 years old, and all but 4 had a membership less than 500. The largest delegation of 6 came from Local 110 in Cedar Rapids where they had pushed their elections ahead so that the newly elected officers could attend the school.

Class Begins

Classes were held in a cool, comfortable room overlooking Lake Mendota. A warm welcome was extended to the delegates by the Abraham Lincoln Summer School which had provided the facilities for the week.

Several hours' discussion of the history of FTA and the CIO were followed by discussions on the following subjects:

Contracts—ways and means of getting the maximum gains in wages, vacations, night bonuses, etc., from the WLB and how to get a Union Shop and other bene-

fits, which the Board will not order, from the management.

Job rights for veterans—special attention was paid to this subject so that the locals can play their part in the plant and community in protecting job rights for veterans, with special care to the problem of disabled veterans. Ways and means of combatting the efforts of reactionaries to split the veterans and the workers were discussed.

Students Get Quizzed

Each discussion period was followed by quizzes. These helped clear up misunderstandings by further discussion of unclear points.

Finally, the discussion turned to the task of building top-notch stewards' councils — or, in small plants, the improvement of joint work by committee members. This, the delegates felt, involved an understanding of the contract and how to enforce it; of how to build 100% union departments; and of how to organize the workers behind PAC work for wage increase, the CIO demands for a 20% wage increase, and for 60 million jobs.

Realizing the necessity of speeding organization in large sections of FTA industries, the delegates spent some time figuring out how locals could help in organizing campaigns. Locals 44 and 194 told about how they had already organized several small plants in their areas.

World Problems

From discussions on immediate tasks of improving wages and working conditions, the students launched into the consideration of world trade problems that affect labor. They covered how fascism rose to power by crushing trade unions and democratic organizations, how fascism was stopped by the formation of the United Nations, and the importance of the World Labor Congress in building world labor unity to combat wars and depressions.

Legislation

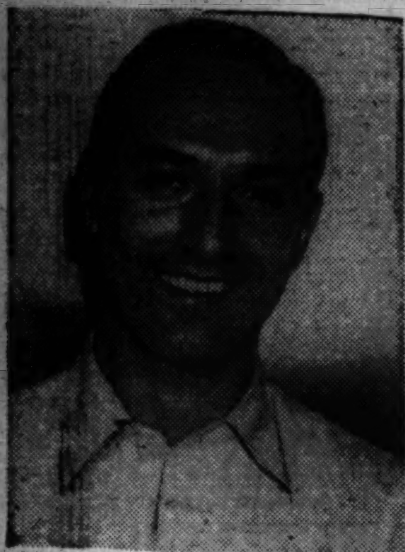
In the final sessions the delegates covered the major bills which directly affect wages, security and employment, such as the Ball-Burton-Hatch open shop bill, the bills for a 65c minimum, improvements in the Wage and Hour Act, the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill and Truman's emergency unemployment compensation bill, etc. Ways of mobilizing the membership on these issues were discussed, such as letters and delegation to Congressmen, etc.

Moonlight Cruise

Each day school ended at 3:30 and the delegates went off to relax on the lawn or swim in the lake. A moonlight cruise was held on the lake on Thursday night together with delegates to the UE school which was in session the same week. One night some of the delegates put on a mock negotiation scene with a "company lawyer" who said "no" to every union proposal.

There were many smiles of agreement when Pres. Henderson commented that many delegates would leave with a heavy sense of the important work that they must do. And each delegate left the school with renewed confidence and more information to assist him as a leader in FTA.

Win Increase In Incentive Premium Pay



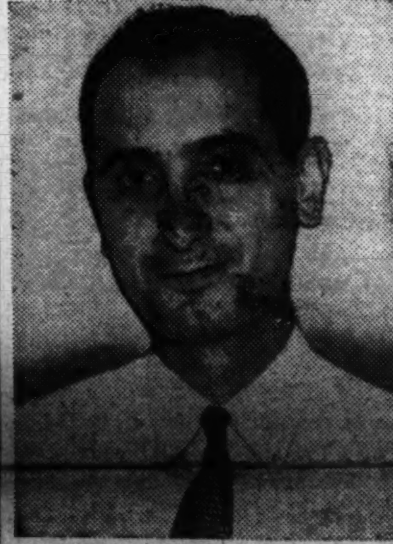
JOE COLANGELO, Shop Steward of the Broth Kettles Dept. at Campbell Soup (Local 80, Camden, N.J.): "Our new incentive pay rates will add about 33c to each dollar of incentive premium we earn. In our department it will go a long way in compensating for the shorter workweek we've been having recently."



SADIE CULFIN, Shop Steward, Labeling Dept., No. 2 Plant: "Some of the girls in my department recently won their 63c minimum through a WLB order, and this new incentive pay will be a big boost to their premiums."



WILLA MAE MCGEE, Shop Steward, Strapping Dept., Warehouse No. 2: "In our department, where we strap cases for overseas, the girls are always arguing about premiums, and this new system will help a lot. I average about \$4 to \$5 per week in incentive pay now, and under the new system I will make up to \$6.50."



ANTHONY ANASTASIA, Shop Steward, 3rd floor Chicken Noodle Dept.: "In my department this will mean a bigger pay increase than if we had won a 2c or 3c raise. And it's been coming to production workers for a long time."

THE NEW INCENTIVE pay plan at Campbell Soup, won by Local 80 through the War Labor Board on June 29, corrected a long-standing abuse on the part of the Company.

Working under the Bedeaux System, since 1927, Campbell Soup employees were being deprived of 25% of their incentive premium when they produced more than the required output. Instead of being paid for all production above the normal, employees were paid only 75% of the extra production.

Local 80 demanded that the Company pay the full 100% of incentive earnings, and the case went before a public hearing of the WLB. Approval of the Union's demands were made immediately.

On guard against any attempt at speed-up, the Union will see to it that the job rates will not be lowered by the Company.

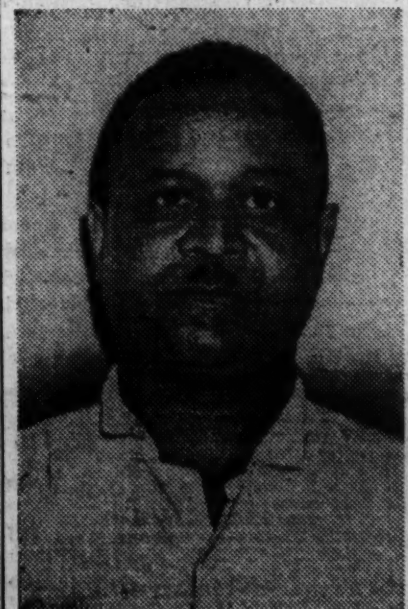
For the first time, 5,000 production employees at Campbells will receive their full earnings for all production, much of which goes to the Armed Forces. In effect, it will be a wage increase, adding one-third to premium earnings.

The case was presented on behalf of Local 80 by Int. Rep. Jessica Rhine, assisted by Int. Vice-Pres. Lewis Bentley, Business Agent Anthony Valentino, Trustee Olive Hobbs and Shop Steward Elsie Bonner.

They Signed Up 200 New Members Every Year; "We Talk Union," Say Local 80 Stewards

Camden, N. J.—John Vederosa and Ambler Bailey are two Union men who carry the Union with them wherever they go. To put it plainly, each of them has signed up the modest amount of about 800 new members since the first Local 80 contract at Campbell Soup in 1941.

Meet Brother Vederosa. He is popularly known as "Pea Soup" since 15 years ago (long before



AMBLER BAILEY

the Union) when the boss found him eating out of a Campbell's can while on the job. He was very hungry, John said, but the boss was unsympathetic. And the little can of pea soup cost John two weeks' pay.

Since then "Pea Soup" has found better ways to keep fed—by building the Union. Shop Steward of the Retort Department, John has no trouble getting members in his department. "Every time there is a grievance," he says, "I take it up. The workers know I'm always there to help them, so when I ask them to join the Union they always sign up."

It's the men and women in the other departments that John worries about. He keeps a weather eye open for all newcomers, and it isn't long before he's talking Union to them.

NO ALIBIS

"A lot of people have alibis," he says. "Either they'll sign next week, or they're not staying long, or somebody's sick at home . . . But those alibis don't weigh me down. The Union is bringing us more gains with each contract. It can continue only if everybody is working together. So I stick to it until I sign them up."

"Pea Soup" is teaching unionism to his kids at home, too. Ger-

ry, his 17-year-old daughter, helps him to write up his grievance cases and is growing up to be a staunch union maid.

Ambler Bailey, who has won three Local 80 prizes for signing up members, has more than 100 new members to his credit for this year alone. A Campbell's employee for 23 years, Ambler is a charter member of Local 80.

He is Steward of the Refrigeration Department and proudly tells that his wife is a shop steward, too, in the laundry where she works.

BELIEVES IN UNION

"I used to be an insurance man," says Bailey, "and maybe that's why I can talk to people. But you can't sell something unless you believe in it, and I really believe in the Union."

People will sign up, he believes, if you show them what the Union has accomplished. One of the biggest gains was won this year, when the Union's new vacation plan went into effect. Based upon 4% of total earnings instead of the former straight time weekly pay, this year's vacation pay was as much as \$50 to \$100 higher than at any time previously.

"There is just one worker in the plant whom I haven't been

able to sign up since 1938," Bailey told the News on July 19. "He's pretty stubborn, but I finally got him to agree to join if we won our incentive pay plan. It took a lot of hard work and I'm going to see it through. I promise you, he'll sign up tomorrow."

P. S. The News office phone rang the next day. It was Ambler Bailey. You guessed right—the stubborn man joined the Union at last.



JOHN VEDEROSA

IS YOUR PLANT 100% ORGANIZED?

How 2 Locals Plan for Union Consolidation

194 Chicago, Ill.—Here is one Local which is attacking the problem of consolidation in a forthright manner. In line with the proposal of the International Executive Board that all locals must undertake to close the gap between workers under contract and dues-paying members, Local 194 has set itself a program for immediate action. The goal is a union shop in every plant.

Local 194 has 6 companies under contract, with a total of 2,500 employees. The largest of these is the Campbell Soup plant where there are 2,200 workers under contract. The plant has had a turnover in employees of 29,000 in 15 months, with a steady average of 250 a week.

How to tackle this big problem? Local 194 laid out a program for: 1—a strong shop steward council; 2—union education; 3—local organization; 4—publicity; 5—political action; 6—organizing the unorganized.

Stewards Councils Set Up

In tackling the problem of consolidation at Campbell Soup, the Local first realized that two Stewards Councils are necessary—one for the day shift and one for the night shift. Then the plant was divided into eight main departments. In each of these departments, the Local elected one Chief Department Steward whose duty it is to see that his department is organized and functioning 100%. In the plant as a whole they elected a Chief Plant Steward and an Assistant Plant Steward whose duties are to get every department functioning 100%.

One of the main problems in consolidation, the Local decided, is union education. Thus, Local 194 voted to send 4 delegates to the Midwest School conducted by the International Union. Those delegates will be responsible to bring back

a complete report on the school. They will hold classes in the Local, so that the education they learned will benefit the widest possible number of Local members and officers.

The Local further decided to send all Stewards and members of newly formed committees to the Abraham Lincoln School in Chicago, in order to make them a better functioning part of the Local Union activities.

In order to make education a lively and interesting topic at all membership meetings, the Local will purchase a movie projector and show films at meetings.

Constitution and By-Laws

On the structure of its organization, the Local has adopted a Constitution and By-Laws which sets forth the duties of all committees, officers and divisions.

Publicity was recognized as being an important part of union-building. Events of interest will be sent to FTA News; and the Local will continue to check up on its mailing list each month. The Local will also issue more leaflets and will mimeograph a news bulletin which will be mailed to all members twice a month.

Criticizing its past inadequacy in political action, the Local plans to establish a rank and file Legislative Committee which will handle legislative issues more fully, and which will organize full political action in the Local.

The Local, feeling that organized workers suffer most when they are surrounded by unorganized plants, will hire a full-time organizer as soon as finances permit. Until that time, rank and file organizing committees will be formed to carry out the organizing program of the Region.

80 Camden, N. J.—At the Campbell Soup plant here, Local 80's membership includes over 90% of the employees. The Local has decided, however, that nothing less than a Closed Shop can protect the interests of the workers in the postwar period.

A special meeting of Shop Stewards was called on July 19 at which the following program was adopted:

From July 20 to October 20, 1945, any Campbell Soup employee who is not a member of Local 80 may become a member by paying the standard \$2 initiation fee.

From October 20 on, all employees who are not members and who have more than one year's seniority will have to pay a \$25 initiation fee. Employees with less than one year's seniority

will be required to pay only \$2 initiation fee, up to the time they reach one year's seniority.

Pointing out that a Closed Shop will be the only way in which the Local's hard-won gains can be preserved, Local 80's Stewards set forth a list of further gains to be fought for. These include:

- A general wage increase of 20c per hour;
- Six paid holidays per year when not worked;
- Three weeks vacation with pay for all employees with more than 5 years service;
- A group insurance plan paid by the Company;
- Ten days sick leave per year;
- Ten-minute rest periods every two hours.

Just as the trade unions of America fought for and won the 8-hour day, declared Local 80, so will these benefits be won at Campbell Soup.

Council Plans For Organizing

By Frank Hargrove, Regional Director
Memphis, Tenn.—High on the agenda of the July 22 meeting of the Southern Mississippi Valley Council were plans for bringing an additional organizer into the region. This was discussed in the light of plans to extend the or-

Organizing At Fendrich

Evansville, Ind.—From rolling cigars, to rolling CIO; this is the story of the organizing drive in the Fendrich Cigar plant in Evansville. A rank and file organizing committee, composed of workers in the shop who were active in previous organizing campaigns at the plant, are spearheading the drive that is bringing in new members every day.

Heightened interest in FTA's campaign was shown as a result of a successful fight in Washington waged by the Evansville CIO unions against the efforts of Evansville bosses to get the WLB to reduce wages in the area.

The first plant meeting of Fendrich workers was held on July 17. Regional Director Jack Montgomery and representatives of UAW Local 705 were the speakers.

Ready for Election At Stokely Cannery

Greenwood, Ind.—FTA is under way in an organizing drive at the Stokely Brothers cannery here, it was announced by CIO Field Representative Pete Markunas. Markunas, who works out of the CIO Regional Office in Indianapolis, is in charge of the drive and has notified the Company that FTA represents a majority of the employees at the plant. He is awaiting a reply from the Company before petitioning for an election.

Between 75 and 100 employees are employed full-time at the Stokely cannery. The plant, located about 11 miles outside Indianapolis, processes frozen foods.

Watch for winners of the Letter-Writing Contest in the Sept. 1 issue of the News.

ganization of FTA locals in Mississippi and to map strategy for better contracts in this state, especially among the cotton oil mills and cotton compresses where a good start has already been made.

A program of action for the local Political Action Committee was mapped out, and final arrangements were made for the attendance of delegates to the FTA Southern School on August 20.

Substantial gains were made for the workers in the following plants through recent contract negotiations: Port Gibson (Miss.) Oil Works, represented by Local 182; Leland (Miss.) Oil Works, represented by Local 189; Refuge Cotton Oil Co., Greenville Oil Works, and International Vegetable Oil Co., Greenville, Miss., represented by Local 283; and at the Refuge Cotton Oil Co. in Vicksburg, Miss., represented by Local 180.

NMU's Demands For Seamen Backed by FTA

Philadelphia, Pa.—Backing the CIO National Maritime Union's demands for merchant seamen, FTA President Donald Henderson called upon the WLB to grant the NMU's demand for a 55c minimum wage, in a wire on July 24.

In the same spirit of labor solidarity, FTA members signed petitions for the Merchant Seamen's Bill of Rights at the FTA Leadership Training School held in Pennsylvania the week of July 1. The petitions were circulated by Local 80 Shop Steward Norman Tribbett who was recently discharged from the Navy.

The merchant seamen are faced with considerable wage cuts as a result of the ending of their wartime bonus. Represented by the NMU, they are demanding rights similar to those granted servicemen by the GI Bill of Rights and increases in their minimum scale to 55c per hour. The present minimum for seamen is 34½c per hour, probably the lowest skilled pay in the country.



M-228

"THESE BEEFSTEAK TOMATOES ARE A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT. ALL THESE WEEKS AND NOT A SIGN OF ANY BEEF!"

CIO-PAC To Campaign On Six Major Issues

Washington, D. C.—Warning that reactionary pressure is on the increase, the CIO Political Action Committee at a meeting here July 11 adopted six prime campaign tasks "immediate action on which is essential to meet the needs of the common man and of the whole nation."

They were:

- Revision of the national wage policy to adjust wages to living costs.
- The 65c an hour minimum wage.
- Unemployment insurance to be supplemented and extended.
- Funds for FEPC as a permanent agency.
- Enactment of the Murray Patman Full Employment bill and the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security bill.
- Full endorsement of the San Francisco Charter and the Bretton Woods agreement.

"This is not a narrow labor program," said a statement issued by Pres. Philip Murray and PAC chairman Sidney Hillman. "It is a program for the whole American people." The statement said PAC would continue as in the past to cooperate with all other labor and progressive organizations to realize its aims.

The Committee pledged support

AMERICA UNITED

CIO's Newest Radio Series

NBC Stations

LISTEN IN!

1:15 P. M., EWT

Starts Sun., July 8

to Pres. Truman in his efforts to carry out the program charted by Pres. Roosevelt, but pointed out that it remained an independent non-partisan instrument "responsible solely to the membership of the CIO."

CIO Convention Off Due to ODT Rules

Washington, D. C. — The 1945 convention of the CIO was called off by the National Executive Board July 13 because of the regulations of the Office of Defense Transportation.

In a resolution adopted at its meeting at the Hotel Mayflower, the Executive Board resolved:

"1—The constitution of the CIO, adopted at the 1944 convention of the CIO, shall continue in full force and effect . . .

"2—The present officers and members of the Executive Board shall continue to serve . . . until the next convention;

"3—The standing and special committees that have been designated by the president of the CIO and approved by the Executive Board shall continue until further action is taken thereon."

KEEP FAITH

with us—

by buying

WAR BONDS

Notes LOCALS

Win Increases

19 Memphis, Tenn.—Contract negotiations at the Cold Press Mill recently resulted in a 5c per hour wage increase across the board. The increase is retroactive to November 19, 1944.

Wage negotiations at Malone & Hyde also netted a 5c per hour across the board increase retroactive to May 10.

Negotiations are under way for all cotton compresses in Memphis, with the Gulf Atlantic Warehouse Co., the first test before the War Labor Board. The WLB Panel hearing officer recommended that the Board grant the Union's demand of a 5c per hour increase for all workers at the plant. Local 19 considers this a good beginning and plans to go all out to get the Board to follow the recommendation. Such a Board order would set the pattern for similar increases in all the other Memphis compresses.

Vacation plans for the industry are being improved by the establishing of one and two-week vacations.

By Frank Hargrove, Reg. Dir.

Good Meeting

55 Middletown, Ohio—Local 55 held a very fine membership meeting recently which was well attended. Plans were made for a dance to be held in the near future.

Brother Hopkins, Steel Workers' Organizer, delivered an interesting talk. Members of all the CIO unions in the area have been invited to attend Local 55's meetings.

By Jennie Stiver, Reporter

5c Shift Bonus

179 Toledo, Ohio—Several good points were gained by Local 179 in its new contract with the Archer-Daniels-Midland Co. The Negotiating Committee members, Bros. Ringer, DeGood, and . . .

global Director Armando Valdes won night shift premiums of 5c per hour for the 2nd and 3rd shift workers. The vacation plan was improved by a step-up plan with 1 week for 1 year, 1 week and 2 days for 2 years, 1 week and 3 days for 3 years, 1 week and 4 days for 4 years, and 2 weeks for 5 years. The Grievance Committee is to be paid by the Company for all time spent on settling grievances.

The above points were submitted on a Form 10 to the War Labor Board, and the Local is quite sure that their request will be okayed.

Some \$3,776.90 in War Bonds was bought by the Local members in the 7th War Loan Drive, thanks to the fine efforts of John Bloom, the Bond Salesman.

By Clyde DeGood, Reporter

New Officers

191 Milwaukee, Wis.—Newly elected officers of Local 191 are: Otto Bischoff, Pres.; William Neujahr, Vice-Pres., and Nicholas Fabrina, Fin. Secy.

Recommend Raise

195 Hopkinsville, Ky.—Local 195 won the first step in a dispute case with the Hopkinsville Milling Co., when the WLB Panel hearing officer recommended to the Board the Union's demands for a 5c per hour wage increase and a one and two-week vacation plan. Final action by the Board is expected shortly.

New Local

339 Plymouth, Wis.—The most recent addition to FTA is Local 339 whose members are employed at the Cleveland Container Corp., which employs 350 workers. Temporary officers of the Local are: Veddon Doherty, Pres., and Ernestine Trowbridge, Secy.

FTA Councils

From time to time this list of area councils will appear in the News for the information of the local unions.

Northeastern Council

New York State, Northern Jersey (including Trenton), New England
Armando Ramirez, Regional Director
977 Intervale Avenue, Bronx 59, New York

Middle Atlantic Council

South Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland
Lewis C. Bentzley, Regional Director
Room 414, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia 2, Pa.

Tri-State Council

North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia
Frank Green, Regional Director
247½ N. Main Street, Winston Salem, N. C.

Southern Council

Florida, Alabama and Georgia
John G. Lackner, Regional Director
730 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida

Michigan-Ohio Council

Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Northern Kentucky
Armando Valdes, Regional Director
1000 Walnut Street, Cleveland, Ohio

Indiana-Illinois Council

Indiana, Illinois
Jack Montgomery, Regional Director
166 W. Jackson Blvd.—Room 1011, Chicago, Ill.

Wisconsin-Minnesota Council

Wisconsin and Minnesota
Harry Virgil, Regional Director
108 Wells Street, Milwaukee 3, Wis.

Mississippi Valley Council

Mississippi, Western Tennessee, Arkansas, Southern Kentucky
Frank Hargrove, Regional Director
66 S. Third Street, Memphis, Tennessee
Harry Koger, Sub-Regional Director
119 Glover Building, Little Rock, Ark.

Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa Council

Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa, Colorado
Louis Jedlicka, Regional Director
419½ Second Ave. S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Texas-Louisiana Council

Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma
No Regional Director assigned
600 South 17th Street, McAllen, Tex.

California-Arizona Council

California and Arizona
Luisa Moreno, Regional Director
5851 South Avalon Blvd., Los Angeles 3, Calif.

Northwestern Council

Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska
Conrad Espe, Regional Director
221 Second Avenue, Seattle 14, Wash.

WORLD



LABOR

France: Paris workers celebrated the 156th anniversary of the storming of the Bastille July 14 by pouring out into the streets in the thousands, carrying signs and shouting slogans that voiced the current political demands of the French resistance movement.

The huge popular demonstration climaxed a 4-day meeting of the French Renaissance, which called the grievances of the people to the attention of the De Gaulle government. One slogan shouted by demonstrators, "We want a sovereign assembly," was directed against Gen. De Gaulle, who has severely limited the powers of an assembly soon to be elected by the people. Other demands were: "The people's voice must be heard," and "A firing squad for Petain."

Italy: American tanks were sent into the streets of Milan, Italy, the day thousands of workers demonstrated against high prices and for wage increases. Allied Labor News reports from Rome.

No incidents occurred during the demonstration, which lasted two hours and resulted in the winning of the workers' immediate demands. The demonstration was put into effect although Milan's 450,000 industrial workers who are unemployed or on part time work had failed to receive emergency pay agreed to by major employers' groups in consultation with the local Italian General Confederation of Labor.

It was agreed that laid-off workers would receive three-fourths of their normal pay, one-third to be paid by the employers and two-thirds by the Italian government. An 11-point program, headed by the demand for the emergency pay, better distribution of food and lowering of prices, was presented by the labor organization to AMG officials. The Italian cabinet in Rome immediately notified the Milan workers that its share of the emergency pay would be met.

Germany: An anti-fascist bloc of four political parties has been formed in Berlin with the object of regaining "the trust of all other nations on a basis of mutual respect."

Decision to set up the Anti-Fascist Democratic Union was taken at a meeting of representatives of the Social Democratic, Communist, Christian Democratic and Liberal Democratic parties. The parties will retain their independent status, but will work together through a central committee.

Purposes of the new organization are to fight Nazism, for reconstruction, establishment of legal rights and freedom of ideas and conscience and religious belief. The Union has the approval of the Russian military authorities in Berlin, whose policy it is to encourage all democratic tendencies among the Germans. In contrast, in the American zone of occupation all public gatherings except for religious purposes and all political activity are banned.

By Federated Press

"Workers, Wherever They Live, Have Interests in Common..."

IN JUNE, 1944, Local 22 Business Agent Theodosia Simpson began a correspondence with a worker in a Russian tobacco factory. The correspondence between the two women continued throughout the year, with Theodosia telling Catherine about how FTA organized the R. J. Reynolds plant, the frame-up of Int. Rep. Bill DeBerry, and the activities of the workers in the Roosevelt campaign, etc.

Catherine Volodina, in turn, wrote about the suffering of the Russians under the heels of the Nazis, of how the Russian people rallied to support their heroic army which helped to turn the tide against the Nazi invaders, and of the work of the Russian tobacco workers union.

Now, with the end of the war in Europe, Catherine Volodina writes to tell of how the Russian people are preparing for peace.

"I read your letter to our working women," she writes, "and it made a deep impression on all of them. You are quite right in saying that workers wherever they may live and whatever race, nationality or sect, have interests in common. . . .

"Like you American workers, we too, are interested in unity and international cooperation of the labor movement, with the object of preventing a new war, and the establishing of a firm peace. I cannot conceal my disappointment at the fact that a considerable number of the AFL unions are pursuing a policy detrimental to the international unity of labor.

"Each one of us welcomes the efforts of the CIO, to which your union belongs, in building the unity of the labor movement. I believe that the World Trade Union Congress which will take place in Paris in September will lay a firm foundation for unity in the international labor movement.

PEACEFUL LABOR

"Here, we've turned to peaceful creative labor in the very first days after the end of the war. We Soviet tobacco workers have the task of increasing the output of cigarettes 2.7 times more than last year. To fulfill this plan, the factory will have to increase the number of workers. We are establishing special courses to train new workers, and are impatiently waiting for the return of those who had previously worked in our factories. Demobilization of the older age groups out of the Red Army has already begun and we are preparing a warm welcome for them.

"The end of the war enabled

our trade union organization to increase the funds for the cultural and every-day needs of the workers. A good many of our factory workers will spend their vacations this year in rest homes. At the expense of social insurance they will be accommodated free of charge, or will pay 1/3 of the cost. Room in summer houses and pioneer camps is also being provided for 420 workers' children from our factory.

HOPES TO CONTINUE

"I hope our correspondence will continue. I'm greatly interested to hear how the American tobacco workers are living and shall appreciate any news you may send me. Please let me know in your next letter how the case of Billy DeBerry ended. This case evoked great interest among all our working women when I read your letter to them. If possible, please tell Bill that we sincerely respect him for his staunch stand in this case.

"With friendly greetings, Catherine Volodina, Java Tobacco Factory, Moscow."

CIO Board OK's WTUF

Washington, D. C.—Full participation of the CIO in the September meeting of the World Trade Union Federation in Paris was voted in a resolution adopted by the Executive Board here July 13.

The resolution authorized Pres. Philip Murray to prepare for CIO participation and to secure CIO affiliation with the WTUF formed in London last February with representatives of over 60 million workers in attendance.

Hailing the WTUF as "a bulwark against any resurgence of Nazism or Fascism," and a means of assuring "full mobilization of the people for an enduring and prosperous peace for the common people throughout the world," the resolution also

(1) authorized distribution of WTUF's proposed constitution to all state and local union councils.

(2) empowered CIO executive officers to request the U. S. State Department to support requests "of the WTUF and the CIO that they be afforded the opportunity of participation in the work of the Social and Economic Council and assist in the preparation of all policies and problems of action dealing with the problems of labor."



No More Scenes like this one cloud the Russian land. This Soviet family, whose home was ruined by the Nazis, are now re-building their life. Most of the fertile Soviet land, however, is not yet capable of yielding enough food for its people, and FTA is participating in the "Food for Russia" drive to help our Allies recover from their devastating war.

Delegates from Russian Unions Pay Visit Here

Washington, D. C.—American reporters expressed amazement at a press interview with Vassili Kuznetov on July 22, when the visiting Soviet labor leader said that "unemployment is definitely not among" the problems facing

Delegates Plan Visiting Program

Washington, D. C. — Arriving here on July 21 as guests of the CIO, 10 representatives of the Soviet trade unions will tour the factories of the United States. Their proposed trip will take them through the industrial plants of Chicago; Duluth, Minn., and Detroit the last week in July. The first week in August they will visit the eastern seaboard industries.

the Soviet trade unions in reconversion to peacetime production.

The 8-hour day is returning, he said, but without any reduction in take-home pay. The greatest difficulty is a shortage of workers, the young chairman of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions add.

Kuznetov and nine other Soviet trade union representatives are here visiting the United States as guests of the CIO. Their visit is part of an exchange delegation program, and the CIO expects to send its delegates to the USSR sometime soon, according to CIO Vice-Pres. Allan S. Haywood.

Kuznetov declared that charges of lack of democracy against the Soviet trade unions were "completely wrong statements. It can be said only because of lack of information about our movement or by enemies of the labor movement," he continued. "We are willing to show that our trade union movement is the most democratic in the world. We have voluntary membership, dues payments are voluntary, and our union officers are democratically elected by secret ballot." Union members total 25 million workers, or about 90% of the eligible workers.

Coming back to reconversion, Kuznetov said that a 3-year plan for national rebuilding was being launched by the State Planning Organization. This will be supplemented with yearly and quarterly plans so that a constant check on the flow of production can be made.



Historic Visit: Pres. Harry S. Truman shakes hands with Generalissimo Stalin as he begins visit to Stalin's quarters in Berlin. Left to right: Sec. of State James F. Byrnes, Truman, Stalin, and Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov.

(U. S. Signal Corps Photo via Federated Pictures.)

UNION MEN IN UNIFORM

Rankin Slapped From All Sides For Union-Baiting And Red-Baiting

Washington, D. C.—Rep. John E. Rankin (D. Miss.), self-styled protector of veterans' rights, thinks he knows a lot about what the vets want, even better than they do themselves. When Rube Schafer, an overseas vet with 43 months credit in the infantry and an AFL member, went down to see Rankin to ask why vets were not asked

Union Helps To Adjust Veterans

New York, N. Y.—Because shopping is one of the first things which the disabled veteran will do on returning to civilian life, 5 New York CIO Store Unions, representing 16 thousand workers, have embarked on a 3-point program to prepare their members in serving the disabled.

A special section in the "Department Store Employee," official union paper, discusses what the Government has done to help the disabled vet take his place in society. And, it stresses how important a contribution the sales person can make in helping him to make the adjustment.

What the disabled veteran, feeling his way in a civilian society for the first time, needs from the sales person is outlined. The special section analyses some of the specific situations which may arise in different departments of the store as disabled veterans resume their shopping activities, and provides instructions to guide the employees.

for their views on Rankin's union-busting bill before the House Veterans' committee, Rankin shouted "I'm taking care of veterans, not you," and slammed the door in Schafer's face. Schafer acted surprised at this treatment from a man who heads the Veterans' Committee, but Rankin called the police and had Schafer taken away.

The measure he went to see Rankin about would allow veterans to work in plants without joining a union or paying dues, even though there is a closed shop or maintenance of membership contract.

Sharply criticizing Rankin's actions, Henry Geisz, a regional vice-president of the Natl. Conference of Union Labor Legionnaires, charged him with "misusing his office to undermine the unity of the veterans and the organized labor movement, a unity upon which the future security of the veterans rests. Once a veteran is discharged, he becomes a worker and his best protection for . . . security rests with the security of his union brothers."

Geisz promised an energetic campaign by the Union Labor Legionnaires, which has 120 labor posts in the American Legion, to expose those Congressmen who try to use the veterans to feather their political nests.

One of many protests against Rankin's "concern" for the wel-

fare of the vets and soldiers appeared in a recent issue of Stars and Stripes in a letter from Pvt. John Hosmer.

"... I'm not forgetting Rankin's didoes ove. the soldier vote or his countless attempts to stir up racial or religious hatred from the floor of the House . . .," writes Pvt. Hosmer. "I am a Missouri Democrat and I am ashamed that he is of my party . . . No, Rankin, I don't want to owe you anything. You typify all I don't like at home."

Rankin came in for sharp criticism again when he supported a smear document to Congress urging the removal of War Department officials because they commissioned Communists in the Army. Going into a rage because top War Department officials defended the loyalty and bravery of 16 officers and men attacked as being Communists, Rankin demanded the removal of Secy. of War Henry L. Stimson, Under Secy. Patterson and Asst. Secy. John McCloy.

"The performance of these officers and soldiers of their military duties during the last three years," the War Dept. said in a statement hitting Rankin sharply, "has clearly evidenced their loyalty to this country and to the principles for which this country is fighting."



Mail Call

"I received the Veteran's Guide Book, and it is a very fine book for all veterans. I found it very interesting," writes Pfc. Nick Rukavina, Local 72 member now stationed in Ulm Germany.

"We're doing guard duty over here, and we have plenty of German war prisoners."

CRITICIZES GI BILL

"Most of the boys in the service are complaining about the loan provisions in the GI Bill of Rights. They don't think much of it because of the red tape. All the other provisions in the bill are okay with them. Most of the GI's say that they should get the \$2,000 without paying it back because they worked very hard. But the men in Washington can never see it that way."

"The boys asked me to find out for us if there was anything said about men being overseas for 18 months. Can they go back to the States for furloughs? We'd like an answer if it isn't too much

trouble for you.

"As for me, I've been overseas 18 months. We landed first in Liverpool, England. From there we took our part in the Normandy Invasion on D Day, and we kept on going until the fall of Germany. We travelled almost three thousand miles and have gone through 568 cities, through France, Belgium, Germany and Austria. Naturally we've seen many sights. We wear five battle stars and the Arrowhead."

"Us fellows who have 78 points are sweating the States. Before I went into the Service I worked at the National Fruit Canning Co. For a while I worked at the Puget Sound Navy Yard (in Washington), and then I was drafted. But I will always be a member of the CIO no matter where I am to be."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Since V-E Day, the Army's policy of rotating furloughs after 18 months overseas had to be dropped. Furloughs can now be granted only at the discretion of the Commanding Officer.

The CIO and other progressive organizations agree with the men in the GI Bill of Rights. It is the job of all of us to fight for elimination of this red tape and for strengthening the bill generally.

SERVICEMEN:

When your military address changes, please notify FTA News immediately, so that you can continue to receive the paper.

Johnnie Jones

JUMBO HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY THE F.B.I. AND JOHNNIE IS BEING HELD BY ANNIE UNTIL HER CHIEF RETURNS. BUT WHEN JOHNNIE TAKES HER IN HIS ARMS, SHE DROPS HER REVOLVER----

OH, JOHNNIE! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU CARED!

I DON'T!

FEDERATED PRESS—

WHAT?

OUT THE BACK DOOR, SISTER—YOU HAVE A DATE WITH THE F.B.I. TO EXPLAIN YOUR CONNECTION WITH THIS SPY-RING!

AND SO THE ADVENTURE OF JUMBO AND THE SPY-GANG ENDS—AND AT LAST JOHNNIE SHIPS OUT AFTER EVERYTHING HAS BEEN EXPLAINED TO THE CREW OF THE "MISTY QUEEN"—

THE Story of Labor

JOE WORKER

TIMES WERE SO HARD IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY EUROPE THAT THOUSANDS SOUGHT A NEW WORLD IN AMERICA. MOST WERE EVERY-DAY FOLK... CARPENTERS, MASON, LABORERS; BUT SOME WERE "GENTLEMEN" WHO THOUGHT IT BENEATH THEM TO WORK.

IN VIRGINIA THE "GENTLEMEN" WERE IN CONTROL. HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH AND THE FEW LABORERS, ALL WOULD HAVE STARVED TO DEATH.

IN RHODE ISLAND IT WAS DIFFERENT. ROGER WILLIAMS BELIEVED IN A REAL DEMOCRACY WHERE ONLY THE WORKER COUNTED, AND ONE'S RELIGION, RACE OR BIRTH DID NOT MATTER. AS A RESULT RHODE ISLAND PROSPERED BEYOND ALL THE OTHER COLONIES....

IN VIRGINIA, 1607

LET THE COMMON FOLK DIG AND SWEAT. THAT'S WHAT GOD MADE THEM FOR!

GOLD! I FOUND IT! WE ARE RICH!

BUT CAPT. JOHN SMITH KNOWS IT'S A GOLD BRICK....

THAT'S WORTHLESS ROCK! THE ONLY GOLD IN VIRGINIA WILL COME FROM THE SWEAT OF YOUR BROW AND THE HEAVE OF YOUR BACK!

WORK? THAT'S BENEATH A GENTLEMAN... I WON'T!

BUT HE DID... FOR CAPTAIN SMITH HELD A GUN ON HIM....

OW! MY HAND'S BLISTERED! I'LL REPORT YOU TO ENGLAND FOR THIS, CAPTAIN SMITH!

REPORT AWAY! THOSE WHO DON'T WORK DON'T EAT!

BUT THE GENTLEMEN FORCED SMITH'S RECALL, SO JOE WORKER IN DISGUST WENT TO RHODE ISLAND....

ALL MEN OF WHATEVER NATION ARE WELCOME HERE, BE THEY BAPTISTS OR PROTESTANTS, JEWS OR TURKS!

THOSE ARE GREAT WORDS, ROGER WILLIAMS IS SAYING. ARE THEY NOT SAMUEL ISAAC'S?

GREAT WORDS FOR A POOR SOAP BOILER LIKE MYSELF!

IT'S GOOD TO BE IN A PLACE WHERE A MAN CAN CALL HIS WORK HIS OWN!

AND HIS SOUL, TOO! THE VERY AIR SMELLS OF LIBERTY!

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! IF THERE BE ANY POOR AMONG YE, COME TO THE COUNCIL AND YE SHALL BE FED!

DO YOU HEAR THAT, JED? DON'T HE KNOW THERE ARE NO POOR IN NEW-PORT?